

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Executive Registry

76-2702/3

25X1

Between you and Jim Taylor, I need to be kept currently informed on matters of this kind. I have the distinct feeling that I should be doing more personally by Congressional meetings concerning CIA programs and budgets.

E. H. Knoche

Date 23 August 1976

FORM 101 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

OLC

OLC
30 June 76

Executive Registry
76-2702/2

CONFIDENTIAL

17 August 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence
D/DCI/IC
DDO
DDI
DDS&T
DDA
Comptroller
General Counsel

FROM : George L. Cary, Legislative Counsel

SUBJECT : Contacts with Members of the House and Senate
Appropriations Committees Concerning the
Conference on the FY 1977 Budget

1. Things Senate
res. House and
voted to no
2. McL - Young
Mahon - Edwards

1. In view of the interest that has been expressed by various offices in contacts with members of the House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees who will be participating in the conference on the intelligence budgets for FY 1977, I am circulating herewith a copy of my memorandum of 1 July 1976 along with the background papers leading up to my conversations with Representative Jack Edwards (R., Ala.) and Ralph Preston, staff member of the House Appropriations Committee.

2. You will recall that my suggestion that we involve members of the House Committee in the Charles Snodgrass "hearings" was rejected at a 9:00 meeting last month. Further, I am fearful that an effort to involve members in extensive substantive briefings on the subjects of our reclama on the House cuts at this time may well meet the same fate as our attempt to get together with Chairman George Mahon for a session on the DDO investigation. Moreover, reactions I have received from the members who attended the session we gave several members on the SIGINT issue last year indicate that that session, involving a number of Agency briefers was a near disaster.

3. As you know, the Director has agreed to telephone the Chairmen of the two Appropriations Committees to ask them to support our reclama requests in Conference. My staff will then make contact with these and the

(EVENING REPORT FOR OLC)

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other members involved in the Conference to firm up their support and to offer to provide them with back-up papers and briefings if they desire them.

4. I don't think we want to get a group of people, each pushing his own parochial position, involved in extensive and agonizing sessions with these members unless the member really needs or wants them. The name of the game is to get their support. If we can do this by a simple request with reference to the items, I suggest we do it.

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George L. Cary
Legislative Counsel

CONFIDENTIAL

~~SECRET~~*Rep Edwards*

OLC 76-2128

1 July 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meetings With Representative Jack Edwards (R., Ala.)
and Ralph Preston, House Appropriations Committee
Staff, Regarding Charles Snodgrass' "Hearings" on
19 July and Staff Investigation of DDO

1. Following up on the Director's note of yesterday, I met with Representative Jack Edwards (R., Ala.), and subsequently with Ralph Preston, of the House Appropriations Committee staff, to raise with them the possibility of having Defense Subcommittee members present at the "hearing" which Charles Snodgrass, also of the Committee, is holding at Headquarters on 19 July, and the possibility of having meetings with the Subcommittee members with regard to the staff investigation of the DDO. Mr. Edwards indicated that he was sure that he and other Republican members would be willing to participate in both of these sessions, although he cited the problem of time constraints. Ralph Preston (with whom I spoke when I was unable to get through to Chairman George Mahon) was not optimistic that the Chairman or many of the Democratic leaders would be available for either of these.

2. I had a good talk with Mr. Edwards. I pointed out that the Director thought it would be useful if some of the Subcommittee members could find the time to come out to the Agency on 19 July and listen to the Agency's position on the various items covered in the Director's reclamation letter on the House cuts in the Defense Appropriation for FY 77. Mr. Edwards said that, while he would be willing to attend the meeting and he thought other Republican members of the Subcommittee would also, he doubted that we would be able to get Chairman Mahon, or most of the Ranking majority members, out. However, he thought that members like Representatives Bill Chappell (D., Fla.) and Bill Burlison (D., Mo.) might participate. He said he appreciated the point I was making of involving Subcommittee members more directly in Agency matters and agreed with it. (I had used the Hallmark slogan of "caring enough" to participate directly.)

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3. I made the same point with respect to Subcommittee members participating in a review of the activities of the DDO. I told him that the DDO has been investigated by several committees of Congress during the past several years and they are beginning to wonder when these investigations will ever end. I pointed out that we had no objection to discussing our activities with the Investigations staff, but that these men, while very competent, were essentially fact finders and there are certain aspects of the DDO mission that involve some judgmental determination. These we would hope to discuss with the Subcommittee members directly. Mr. Edwards granted the validity of this argument and the fact that the "name of the game" on congressional oversight included involvement of Subcommittee members and direct contact with the Agency on matters of this sort. He did say, however, that if he came to the Agency for a briefing on DDO activities, he did not want to be given a "dog and pony show." He is interested in a good give and take session. I said this was exactly what we would hope to accomplish.

4. Later in the day I discussed these matters with Ralph Preston. He was not at all optimistic about the prospect of getting the Chairman or any of the majority members of the Subcommittee to participate in meetings or hearings of this sort. He said it was difficult enough to get them to turn out for Subcommittee meetings on scheduled items such as covert action briefings or budget meetings. I said the Chairman might designate members of a Subcommittee or participants for such sessions if he (the Chairman) could not participate himself. Preston said, as a matter of fact, the Committee was centralizing much of the Subcommittee's work rather than decentralizing it. He mentioned that the Military Construction Subcommittee was being abolished and its jurisdiction transferred to the full Defense Subcommittee. He said the members are having to rely more and more on the staff to do the work of the Subcommittee and he just didn't think we would be successful in getting majority members present.


5. I advised Preston of my conversation with Mr. Edwards and also mentioned that we were briefing the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence in depth on many sensitive operational and other matters

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and that I thought the members of the House Committees were getting somewhat behind the power curve in this respect. Preston said he thought the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence would not be able to keep up the current pace and he expected that Committee's staff to do most of the work in the future. Preston and I both were pressed for time and I told him that I would like to pursue this discussion with him at a later date.

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GEORGE L. CARY
Legislative Counsel

cc:
D/DCI/IC
DDO
Jim Taylor

Distribution:
Orig - OLC/Subj
1 - OLC/Chrono
OLC/GLC/ksn

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Executive Order
76. 2702/1

To: OLC
George:

I did NOTtake -this up with Mahon
or Edwards. Please do it yourself.
You can use my name in inviting sub comm. members
out here and I will attend if you want me to.
GB 6-30

76-2702

29 June 1976

DESK

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM : George L. Cary, Legislative Counsel

SUBJECT : Charles Snodgrass' "Hearings" on
19 July 1976

1. You will recall that when Jack Iams mentioned Charles Snodgrass' intention to hold "helpful hearings" on our reclamation letter here at the Agency on 19 July, I suggested that we try to get some of the members of the Defense Subcommittee come out at the same time. I think most of us would agree that Chuck's mind is pretty well made up on the appropriations issue and the only way the Agency can benefit from such a session is to have some of the Subcommittee members in attendance.

Action

2. You might want to raise this point with Chairman George Mahon if you get to see him within the next few days; otherwise, I would be happy to take it up with the Chairman and Representative Jack Edwards.

3. The Comptroller will be making arrangements for this session pretty soon. If we are going to try to contact members we should do it before they leave for the Democratic Convention recess.

STATINTL

George L. Cary
Legislative Counsel

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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM:

Legislative Counsel

EXTENSION

NO.

DATE

17 August 1976

STATINTL

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S
INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

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D/DCI/IC

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We are contacting the offices of Chairmen McClellan and Mahon, as well as those of other key Democratic members on the House and Senate Conference on the Defense Appropriations bill who may be in town this week so that the Director can make his calls and we can provide follow-up data and briefings as indicated in the attached memorandum.

George L. Cary
Legislative Counsel

DCI

I have telling papers for your calls to as many of the Congress you can read.